



Bike Parking Facility - Tokyo, Japan



Interior Bike Parking Facility -Tokyo, Japan



Double Parker



Bike Parking Facility - Maihara, Japan



Interior-Maihara, Japan



Interior Bike Parking - Leiden



Amsterdam



Amsterdam

International Bicycle Facilities

There are many countries around the world where bicycles continue to be one of the main means of transportation. Japan is one of these countries where bike facilities are not only an essential aspect of daily life but also an architectural statement about the priorities the population places on this important transit mode.

In Tokyo there are numerous bicycle buildings for public parking. One is Musashino City containing 1300 bicycles and 64 motorcycles. The building is designed to simulate the structure of a bicycle with clear simple structural lines with a slight tension between elements resembling the play of equilibrium in a bicycle. In Maihara, Shiga a bike facility holds 192 bicycles and 24 motorcycles on two floors. The building's design is intentionally open to establish its public identity. The building's floor, wall and roof are one structure wrapping over the space simulating the simple structure of a bicycle. Transparency is the key intent of the design.

In Europe bicycles are a considerable part of daily activity. At the Amsterdam Central Train Station bicycles are so numerous major parking facilities had to be created. The garage just west of the Central Station holds approximately 3000 bicycles in addition to many other facilities in the area. Most of the major urban center train stations in Europe have facilities where bicycles can be stored, rented or repaired. These tend to be straightforward utilitarian designs simply due to the large numbers of bicycles that need to be stored.

Bicycle Facilities

Proposed Bicycle Transit Center
Union Station, Washington DC



Millennium Park, Chicago



Millennium Park, Interior

United States Bicycles Facilities

The US is just beginning to recognize bicycles as a true form of transportation. California has been the leader with bike facilities in Long Beach, Berkeley, Embarcadero and Palo Alto. Some of these facilities are starting their second general structures, enlarged from their initial designs.

The newer bike facilities are in Seattle and Chicago. In Seattle the building has storefront retail and bike storage for approximately 150 bicycles along with a repair shop. The building is mostly glass providing transparency, which helps with safety and serves as a method of advertising. In Chicago's Millennium Park a new bike facility is placed on a parking garage, which is multi-level allowing bikes to park on the lower levels of the garage. This facility holds 300 bicycles and provides hourly, daily and weekly bike rentals. Lockers and showers are provided. A retail shop compliments the facility along with a repair shop.



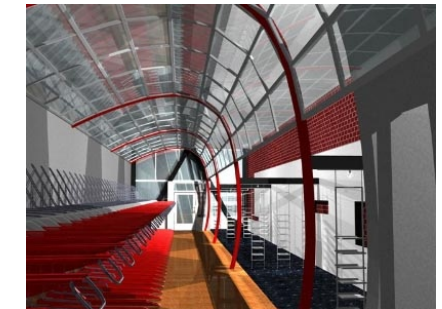
Seattle Storefront Facility



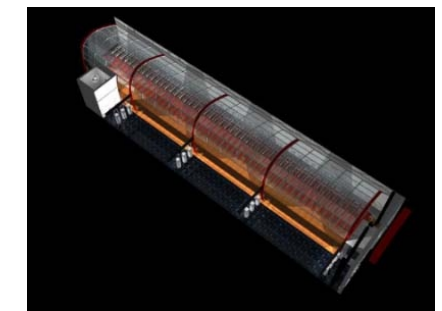
Seattle Storefront Facility -Interior



Millennium Park, Dressing Area



Proposed Facility-Seattle



Proposed Facility-Seattle

Bicycle Facilities

Proposed Bicycle Transit Center
Union Station, Washington DC